



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

March 31, 2009

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To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman  
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Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

## INTERIM RESPONSE TO MOTION TO SUPPORT IN CONCEPT ASSEMBLY BILL 12, CALIFORNIA FOSTERING CONNECTIONS TO SUCCESS ACT

On March 17, 2009, your Board approved a motion directing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to support Assembly Bill (AB) 12 in concept, and report back in 30 days with an analysis of the bill and its impact to Los Angeles County. This is to provide your Board with an interim report on this issue.

AB 12 (Beall), as introduced on December 1, 2008, was a five-page bill citing legislative intent to implement the State option to use Federal Title IV-E funds to extend foster care to youth up to 21 years of age as provided under H.R. 6893, the Federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008. On March 23, 2009, AB 12 was extensively amended to enact program and policy changes needed to provide foster care services to individuals between 18 and 21 years of age. The bill, which now exceeds 100 pages, proposes to revise dependency and delinquency court supervision procedures, case management services, placement guidelines, and licensing standards to address the specific needs of young adults in foster care which differ from those of young children under court supervision. AB 12 would also establish provisions for: 1) supervised independent living services; 2) transitional housing; 3) education and vocational activities; 4) CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, and SSI eligibility; 5) payments for foster care and to children of foster youth; and 6) adoption assistance.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

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As amended, AB 12 does not to allow the County to receive Federal funds for extended foster care services outside of the Title IV-E waiver capped allocation, which would result in significant increased costs to the County. The Department of Children and Family Services is working with County Counsel on an amendment to allow the County to claim these new costs on an open-ended matching basis rather than being subject to the waiver capped allocation. The amendment will be submitted to the County Welfare Directors Association, which is coordinating with county child welfare services departments on amendments to the bill.

The recent amendments to AB 12 will affect the departments of Children and Family Services, Public Social Services, Probation, and County Counsel and these departments are analyzing the bill for programmatic and fiscal impact. This office will provide your Board with an analysis and County impact of AB 12 no later than April 30, 2009.

WTF:GK  
MAL:MR:VE:sb

c:     Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
         County Counsel  
         Department of Children and Family Services  
         Department of Public Social Services  
         Probation Department